

(b) *Time for filing.* All claims for a relocation payment shall be filed with the Commission within sixty (60) days after the family occupies the replacement home unless this time period is extended by the Commission.

(c) *Direct payment of claim.* Relocation payments shall be made in accordance with the terms of the Relocation Contracts and are not subject to claims of creditors or assignments.

§ 700.143 Payments for divorced or separated relocatees.

General. The following considerations apply to certified eligible heads of household who are legally separated or divorced and intend to establish separate eligibility.

(a) *Determination of benefits.* Eligibility for relocation benefits is determined as of the time that the Relocation Contract is signed.

(1) If the divorce or separation took place before benefits were first applied for, the spouse who vacated the habitation will not be eligible for benefits and all relocation benefits will accrue to the spouse remaining in occupancy as head of the household remaining to be relocated.

(2) If both husband and wife are in possession of the habitation at the time that benefits are first applied for, and are divorced or separated prior to signing of a Relocation Contract, both husband and wife may qualify separately for benefits if each meets the requirements of eligibility under these regulations.

(3) If both husband and wife are in possession of the habitation at the time a Relocation Contract is signed but are divorced or separated prior to occupancy of the replacement dwelling, only one benefit will be paid to the household. Such benefits (including the assistance payment, moving expenses and replacement dwelling benefit) and the purchase price of the habitation and improvements may be prorated between husband and wife in such manner as they may agree in writing so long as such proration is consistent with the terms of the Relocation Contract. Such proration may also be made by a court of competent jurisdiction. In the absence of an agreement between the parties or a court order,

any necessary prorations shall be made by the Commission.

(b) For purposes of this section, a head of household shall be considered as married even though living apart from his or her spouse unless legally separated under a decree or separate maintenance.

[47 FR 17988, Apr. 27, 1982]

§ 700.145 Payments to estates.

(a) Relocation benefits can be paid to the estate of a deceased Certified Eligible Head of Household under the following circumstances:

(1) If there is no household requiring relocation pursuant to the Act surviving the deceased head of household:

(i) Compensation for the habitation and other improvements owned by the deceased head of household and the cost of removing personal property from the acquired habitation and other improvements shall be paid to the estate of a deceased head of household, or as otherwise directed by a court of competent jurisdiction.

(ii) No replacement housing benefit or assistance payment (bonus) shall be paid under this circumstance.

(2) Replacement housing benefits may be paid to an estate only when a certified eligible head of household was qualified for such a housing payment pursuant to the Act and signed a Relocation Contract but died before the replacement housing was occupied. The estate of a certified eligible head of household who had not signed a Relocation Contract at the time of his/her death is not eligible for payment of a replacement housing benefit.

(b) If one of a married couple who was a certified eligible head of household dies, the surviving spouse may be paid the same relocation assistance benefits, including replacement housing payments, which the couple would have received had death not occurred. If there is no surviving spouse, a court of competent jurisdiction may appoint a guardian to act for minor members of the household. The Commission shall deal with such guardian and any members of the household who have attained their majority in a manner to

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effect relocation of the remaining household under these regulations.

[47 FR 17988, Apr. 27, 1982]

§ 700.147 Eligibility.

(a) To be eligible for services provided for under the Act, and these regulations, the head of household and/or immediate family must have been residents on December 22, 1974, of an area partitioned to the Tribe of which they were not members.

(b) The burden of proving residence and head of household status is on the applicant.

(c) Eligibility for benefits is further restricted by 25 U.S.C. 640d-13(c) and 14(c).

(d) Individuals are not entitled to receive separate benefits if it is determined that they are members of a household which has received benefits.

(e) Relocation benefits are restricted to those who qualify as heads-of-household as of July 7, 1986.

[49 FR 22278, May 29, 1984, as amended at 51 FR 19170, May 28, 1986]

Subpart D—Moving and Related Expenses, Temporary Emergency Moves

§ 700.151 Eligibility.

(a) *General.* All certified eligible heads of household are eligible for moving and related expenses as prescribed in this subpart. A certified eligible head of household who lives on his/her business or farm property may be eligible for both a payment as a dwelling occupant and a payment with respect to the business or farm operation.

(b) *Least costly approach.* The amount of payment for an eligible expense under this subpart shall not exceed the least costly method, as determined by the Commission, of accomplishing the objective of the payment without causing undue hardship to the certified eligible heads of household.

(c) *Prior approval.* Written approval of the Commission must be obtained for all moving and search expenses in this subpart. Such approval shall be obtained by each certified eligible head of household prior to incurring any expense from the real estate specialist to

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whom the case is assigned. If prior approval and the amount thereof is not obtained from the Commission, the Commission thereafter will determine:

(1) Whether the travel was required and the expenses reasonable and;

(2) The amount of reimbursement to be paid, if any.

§ 700.153 Actual reasonable moving and related expenses—residential moves.

Subject to the limitations contained in this subpart, a certified eligible head of household is entitled to actual reasonable expenses for—

(a) Transportation computed at prevailing federal per diem and mileage allowance schedules, meals and lodging away from home required by the Commission.

(b) Transportation computed at prevailing federal per diem and mileage allowance schedules of the household and personal property from the acquired site to the replacement site.

(c) Packing, crating, unpacking and uncrating of the personal property.

(d) Disconnecting, dismantling, removing, reassembling and reinstalling relocated household appliances, and other personal property;

(e) Storage of the personal property, not to exceed one year unless extended by the Commission.

(f) Insurance of the personal property in connection with the move and necessary storage; and

(g) Other moving related expenses that are not listed as ineligible under § 700.165, as the Commission determines to be reasonable and necessary.

§ 700.155 Expenses in searching for replacement dwelling—residential move.

(a) A certified eligible head of household is entitled to actual reasonable expenses incurred in the search for a replacement dwelling.

(b) Transportation, meals and lodging when required to be away from home by the Commission, computed at prevailing federal per diem and mileage allowance schedules.